# JUNE

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### CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

In order to accommodate as many of our members as possible, an experiment has been arranged for the June monthly meetings of the Academy. A matinee performance on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 16 at 2:30 p.m. Subsequent such meetings will be determined by the popularity of this experiment. We sincerely hope it will prove attractive to many of our good friends and supporters.

### JUNE MEETINGS (For Members and Their Guests)

DATES: Wednesday, June 16 at 2:30 & 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 17 at 8:00

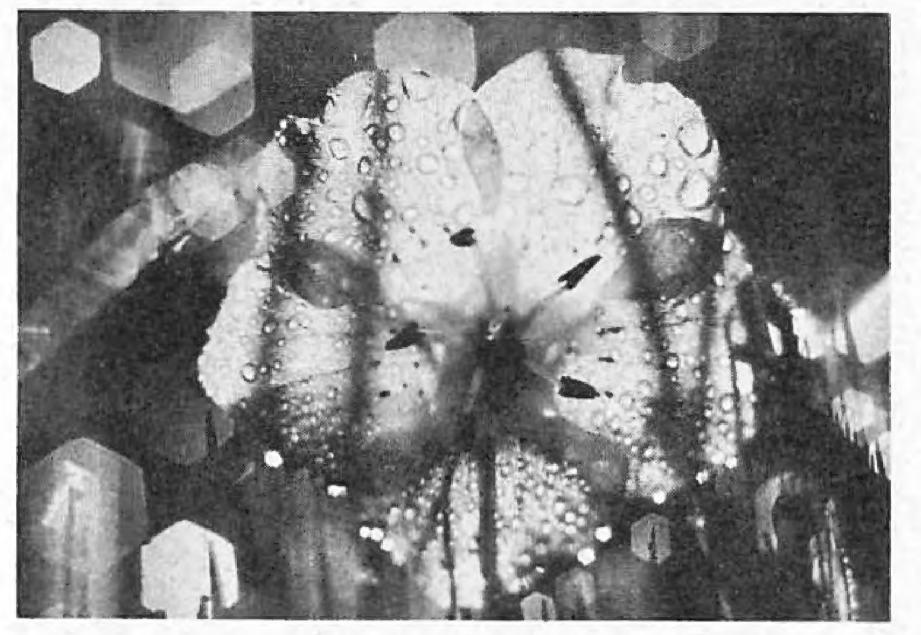
PLACE: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

SPEAKER: David Cavagnaro

SUBJECT: "IN THE FORESTS OF LILLIPUT"

Here is an exciting opportunity to enter — magically — the world of the very small; a chance to explore the miniature miracles happening beneath the grass, areas of the tiny that more often than not we dismiss with neither a backward nor downward glance.

Mr. Cavagnaro is marvelously occupied with a new landscape — the mini-world of a California grassland. For the most part in the morning, he — with his camera — has been up and about and occupied with such fine pursuits as capturing spider webs covered with dew and recording the wonderment of insects waking up. Crawling cautiously through the grass at all seasons of the year, he has caught many of nature's moods and dramatic events scarcely noted such as spiders being born, growing up, spinning, mating, and laying eggs. Miniature



"Baby Blue Eyes"

predators stalk through the "grass trees" and the drama of life is spun out in an entirely new dimension.

Mr. Cavagnaro, co-creator of the book titled "Living Water" mentioned elsewhere in this NEWS-LETTER, spent three years of discovery in this different perspective — walks and excursions in Marin County and beyond to the foothills of the Sierra and to Sonoma, "bagging" a host of exquisite photographs which are a joy to behold.

Three meetings as indicated. Your 1971 membership card is your admission for all three. For the matinee, present your card to the door attendant at the entrance to Cowell Hall only. You will be asked to show it once again at the entrance to Morrison Auditorium. For the evening meetings, the arrangements are as they have been in the past: ingress at the main entrance, Cowell Hall, and at the rear Planetarium entrance off Middle Drive.

### MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"A GRAND TOUR OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM" continues in the Theatre of the Stars through June 20. Something is due to happen in the 1970s that will not happen again for some 175 years. The planets — all of them — will align themselves in such a way that unmanned spacecraft can probe regions of our solar system which one day would have been beyond belief. This is a preview of space exploration due to happen in your own lifetime, as early as 1977 and 1979.

Shows daily at two with evening performances, Wednesday through Sunday, at eight. Extra matinees, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, at 3:30. Closed Monday and Tuesday nights.

Beginning June 24: "ASTROLOGY: QUEEN OF SCIENCE", a repeat of a highly successful — and controversial — sky show first presented in August 1968. Continues through September 12. Show times (June 24 through Labor Day): Daily at 12:30, 2:00, 3:30 and 8:00 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$1.00 with half price for youths under 16, students with student body card, and armed services personnel.

### SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS", a new exhibit in Cowell Hall opening June 1 and continuing indefinitely, is devoted to "the enchanted isles" which have long been a focal point of Academy research. Photographic enlargements, extensive text, and specimen material including three of the huge Galapagoan tortoises.

"LIVING WATER", exquisite nature photographs by Ernest Braun and a sensitive, literate text by David Cavagnaro, based on their just-published book of the same title. Lower Level, Cowell Hall. Begins June 16 and extends through August 16. Mr. Braun and Mr. Cavagnaro were first prize winners in LIFE Magazine's recent photographic contest (natural history division), for professional and amateur shutterbugs. Their book, "Living Water," is available for purchase at the sales desks which are open at the times of all our June meetings. Mr. Cavagnaro has indicated he will be happy to inscribe copies if members so desire. On perusal, you will agree that the book is a volume to treasure.

## NEWS and NOTES . . . . . .

HERE IS A WORD we would like bruited about for the enjoyment of all and we hope you will share it with your friends and neighbors. Beginning June 24 and continuing through Labor Day, September 6, the entire Academy will be open from ten in the morning until nine at night, an arrangement which has brought pleasure to many the past two summers and which is considered well worth the added effort not to mention the expense.

PHILATELISTS TAKE NOTE:
The Academy, in concert with the U.S. Postal Service, the Department of Interior, and other interested agencies, will celebrate the issuance of four Wildlife Conservation stamps on Saturday and Sunday, June

12 and 13. One of the stamps is the causative of the CAS' involvement . . . a California condor is pictured. The current plight of this magnificent bird affects the whole of the State and the watchword for this focusing of attention is "Let Them Live — Le Them Alone."

Thus, throughout California, attention will be directed to various museums where preserved specimens may be seen (such as at the Academy) — a far better way of indulging curiosity than trespassing on the condor's habitat in the Sespe Sanctuary.

On June 12-13, purchase of these stamps and their commemorative cancellation will be available in Cowell Hall in a special booth manned by posta officials. Artist Satnley Galli, author of the first-priz winning wood duck stamp in 1968, designed all four of the stamps.

THE JUNIOR ACADEMY is offering an expanded summer program of instruction for science-minded youngsters, ages 9-16, who are interested in spending a part of their vacation in scientific pursuits. Here is the list of courses to be offered Oceanology, Physical Geology, Photography, Geological Hazards (Earthquakes), Marine Biology Ichthyology, Botany, Conservation of Natural Resources, Herpetology, Astronomy, Arts & Nature Ornithology, Aquatic Organisms, Arachnology—plus a field course (to Lassen Volcanic National Park) in Vulcanology, and three Geologic Walk Through San Francisco on three Saturdays. A courses, some of which will include parents, ar under the supervision of experts in their field.

If you are interested, write or telephone (221-5100) the Academy for our 1971 Junior Academy Summer Program which will be available the first week of June and free on request. Registration for all course is slated for Saturday June 19, ten to four p.m., an all signing-up is on a first-come first-served basis.

MISCELLANEA. Through the medium of the NEWSLETTER, the Docent Council wishes to express its genuine appreciation for the support give it by the membership for the "African Adventure held on the evening of April 29. Over 1000 were it attendance and the evening was a fine success—aesthetically and financially . . . "THE SEA, authored by Senior Scientist Robert C. Miller an first published by Random House in 1966, has bee translated into its fifth language, Italian. Previous translations have been in Spanish, French, Germa and Dutch. No matter the language, the handsom book is a must for every library.

### Meet The Staff . . .



Photo by Lloyd Ullberg

OHN HUNTER THOMAS, Curator in the Departnent of Botany since September 1969, received his achelor of Science degree from the California Instiate of Technology in Pasadena, and his Master's nd Doctoral degrees from Stanford University.

Currently, he is Associate Professor, Biological ciences and Curator of the Dudley Herbarium at tanford, which makes it a chock-full schedule what with his part time duties at the Academy.

His particular fields of interest lie in the taxonomy nd ecology of vascular plants of Western North merica, particularly Alaska, California and Baja California; plus a positive devotion to human populaon problems, environmental deterioration, and conervation. He is no Johnny-come-lately in the field of cological problems and has devoted considerable me and effort over the years sharing his ideas. He the editor of Madrono, the journal of the California totanical Society.

He is the author of numerous papers and two ooks, Flora of the Santa Cruz Mountains of Caliornia, and — with Dr. Ira L. Wiggins — A Flora of he Alaskan Arctic Slope. He is working on a third, entral California Flora.

Dr. Thomas resides in Stanford, California with is wife Susan. Off-duty, and as time allows, he is an nthusiastic hiker, sometime photographer, and the ditor and owner of a private press, a hand-printing vocation which began with printing botanic labels nd proceeded to occasional volumes of poetry ritten by friends.

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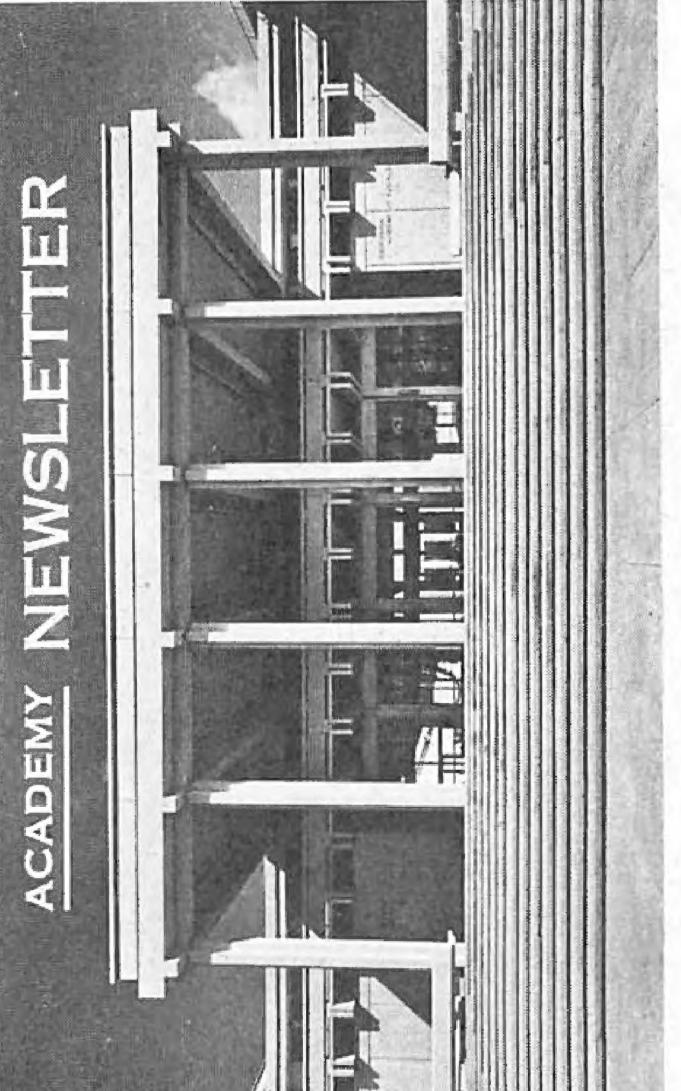
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